

Question put and agreed to.

Point of order regarding the rejection of cut motions.

President.—With regard to your point of order, Mr. Salem. You sent your cut motions for being allowed by the President. The President has disallowed them. Is it a point you can raise in the Council? Of course you can move the President again pointing out that this is wrong.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That is what I say.

President.—That I did for certain reasons. You can just ask me. I shall tell you.

What I want to say is that the object of the cut motion must be pointed out so that I can consider whether it comes under the prohibitory subjects. That is all my point.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—I suppose on former occasions for the last few years we have not been sending it, you can refer to the paper. If it can be shown, I shall resign from the Council and go.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What I wish to point out is, if the President has been called to act under the Rules, it would be quite all right. But here is an occasion for which I have searched all the Rules relating to these cut motions. There is no such possibility of disallowing cuts for any reasons stated. Last year, I had some cuts deleted because I stated some reasons, the discussion of which you thought cannot be permitted in this House. I accepted. After that I searched for the Rules. There is nothing in them to warrant the rejection. Only the votable items are coming for discussion. The reason may not stand or may stand. On a votable item, we do not want anybody's permission, not even the permission of the President, to cut it. If, in the discussion of a particular grant, I go into paths which are forbidden under the Rules of the House, the President can check. For stating a reason it cannot be rejected, for not stating a reason also it cannot be rejected, and that is clear. The only thing required is notice of five days. "If notice of a motion to omit or reduce any grant has not been given 5 clear days before the day on which the demand is to be considered, any Member may object to the moving of the motion, and such objection shall prevail, unless the President, in the exercise of his power to suspend the Rule, allows the motion to be made". That gives power to the President to allow a motion even without the five days' notice, *if any other Member objects*. To be on the safe side, we give the thing before five days. Under Rule 50, 'no motion for appropriation shall be made except on the recommendation of the Government. Motions may be moved at this stage to omit or reduce any grant or any item in a grant, but not to increase

or alter the destination of grant." So that, nowhere in the whole Statute or in the Rules framed or in the Standing Orders put down is there any clause whereby a cut motion can be rejected under any circumstances. My point is, when a cut motion is tabled, under no circumstance can it be rejected. Suppose I wanted to discuss the Royal Family, even then you cannot reject it. You can say when the motion is taken up you cannot discuss the Family here. That is the only thing. My cut motion is here. My right of motion is here. Moreover, I could have given reasons. I got the budget only very late. For forms I had to come to the office. Not that I wanted to take them by surprise.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—We have not been doing it for the last so many years.

President.—The motion has no valid ground to support it.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—And probably when the cut motion is taken into consideration, of course it will be in the mouth of the Government Members to say that we cannot give you this information.

President.—On matters prohibited I can stop the discussion at any stage. What is the Rule?

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—Standing Order No. 71. "*The President shall have Power to regulate the conduct of business in the Council in all matters not provided for in the Regulation, the Rules or the Standing Orders.*"

Mr. A. B. Salem.—What is printed there in the cut motion paper is neither a Rule nor a Standing Order. You may say that, if you want to have a full reply, you give us notice. You may give your answer like that. To say that the reason has not been noted on the motion is not the reason for disallowing the motion.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—But there is one thing that, in the case of motions that are not within the purview of the Council, they cannot be discussed. Such motions will not be admitted by the President.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—On no ground can a cut motion be rejected. It is the right of the Council to put cut motions. If we bring anything within the forbidden degree, it will be overruled.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—In the case of a similar motion on the last occasion, the same point was then considered and then the motion was not allowed. Even the reason was recorded on the back of the paper and the point was considered. The President ruled that it cannot be allowed to be discussed in the Council.

President.—Probably, you did not raise any objection.

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Mr. A. B. Salem.—I did not raise any objection because there were so many motions, and it was superfluous to raise that. But to come forward with a communication tantamounting to a ruling will be rather a ruling which is not based on any Rule or Order.

President.—I think the proper course would be to stop it as it traverses the limits of the Council. That will be the proper way.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I request that those motions may be put down now, and if we wait, there will be no time for printing.

President.—The only thing is that the President must be on his guard regarding discussion.

Mr. T. K. Krishna Menon.—Regarding the allowing of motions, of course, there are certain restrictions under which motions can be sent in and discussed in the Council. Now the point raised by the Member for Jews is that Members have got the right to send in cut motions even on forbidden subjects.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—No.

President.—They don't say that. If, in the course of the discussion, they make reference to forbidden subjects, then it will be pointed out from the Chair and the Member asked not to speak on it.

Presentation of the Budget for 1105 M. E.

President.—The next item is the presentation of the budget for the year 1105 by the Finance Member.

Mr. K. Krishna Pisharodi.—Sir, it has once more fallen to my lot to place before the Legislative Council the budget estimate for 1105 M. E. In order to have a clearer conception of the financial position, it has been customary—a very desirable custom, I think—to review the transactions of the past year the final figures of which have become available, and then, before dealing with the programme for the coming year, to examine, as far as is known to us, the transactions of the current year based on the figures for seven months which alone were available at the time of the preparation of these statements, but duly revised with reference to all known factors that may affect the figures for the last part of the year. With these as my background, I propose to give a general sketch of the salient features of the estimate of our resources for the coming year, the demands which our existing commitments will make upon those resources as also of the further demands on them consequent on the proposed expansion of the present activities and the new developments in various Departments which have all been incorporated in the budget estimate now before you. The memorandum which has already been circulated will, I venture to hope, give all further details and explanations that may be found necessary. If still there are any points on which more information or further